In the claims:

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled).

16. (Previously amended) An optical catheter connector, comprising:

a flexible hollow catheter ferrule;

a rigid retainer housed inside the catheter ferrule, wherein the retainer has at least two cutouts;

a fiber connector housed inside the retainer;

an optical fiber positioned along a rotational axis of the fiber connector;

and;



a connector bushing housed inside the retainer, wherein the connector bushing is attached to the fiber connector.

- 17. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the openings in the retainer are elliptical.
- 18. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the catheter ferrule is made of a flexible polymer.
- 19. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the retainer is made of polycarbonate.
- 20. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the retainer is made of plastic.
- 21. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, further comprising a shield surrounding the other surface of the catheter ferrule.

Claims 22-33 (Cancelled).